THE
BHARAT SCOUTS & GUIDES
BULLETIN
MADRAS STATE

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OURSELVES

PRAY FOR THE CHIEF GUIDE'S HEALTH:

The Scout and Guide family, the world over is anxious about the Chief Guide's health. Lady Baden-Powell, the Chief Guide, was taken ill on Friday, October 13, 1961 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada. The Chief Guide fainted when she was at a small Guider's luncheon. "She had a slight heart attack and needs some little time in bed resting," writes the Canadian Commissioner who has been accompanying the Chief Guide on tour. Let us all join in respectful prayer to the Lord for the speedy recovery of the dynamic Lady Baden-Powell.

THE CAMP CHIEF OF INDIA:

We are glad to learn that Sri T. V. Neelakantam has been appointed as the camp chief in the National Organisation. He succeeds another illustrious Scout worker of this State – the talented Grand Old JIM-Sri J. I. MUTHIA. Scouters in this State should really feel proud that the unique position of the Camp Chief of India has fallen successively on the broad shoulders of two of our tried, seasoned and distinguished Scout workers.

HIMALAYA WOOD BADGE:

It is proposed to hold a Himalaya Wood Badge course for cubs in this State at ERODE Centre from February 5 to 14, 1961. This is an unique opportunity for Scout workers to avail themselves of. More and more of trained workers are necessary to spread the benefits of this movement among the young ones in this State. The State Association has taken a heavy responsibility in undertaking to train Panchayat teachers in cubbing. For this great task to be fulfilled greater number of trained Scouters are necessary. The training course to be held in this State, it is hoped, will turn out a good number of willing workers.

SAVE ABODE OF GODS

ROVERS HELP TO SAVE A CHURCH

A Rover Crew in Cornwall has joined a Vicar and a small committee in the struggle to save one of Britain's oldest churches. The church–St. Piran's–half submerged in water and partly buried by sand, stands on the Cornish coast near Perranporth. The Rovers are helping to dig the church out and are repairing some of the damage. They hope one day to be able to attend services in St. Piran's. The church was founded over 1500 years ago, but was covered by deep sand until it was rediscovered about 150 years ago.

Madras State is a land of Temples, tall stately towers shooting to the sky in all their glory. They are the cultural ethos of this ancient land. But unfortunately they are in bad state of repairs, derelict and uncared for. Scouts and Rovers can serve best by preventing vandals to the sculptures and by helping to keep the temples clean.

–Editor.

QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE

Sri S. R. RAMACHANDRAN

It is too common that an advertiser in the Newspapers calling for applications from intending candidates for appointments requires the particulars about the qualification and experience of the applicants so that he can pick and choose out of the lot and then send out interview cards to a selected few. Only some out of the selecting few come out successful in the *viva voce* Test. The successful candidate is then appointed to the post on probation for a year or so; then if he or she is found fit for the job he or she is confirmed in the appointment thereafter,

In many cases, in the matter of new appointments or promotions to higher posts, when the candidate does not possess the prescribed qualification, his experience is taken into consideration and in some cases one's experience in a particular job or type of work is taken as a qualification for further promotion. In actual practice, experience itself is considered as a qualifcation and hence the question of qualification assumes all importance for any aspirant for a job. This is an universal fact.

Barring the Rover and Ranger Sections of the Scout Movement this organisation comprises boys and girls below 18 years of age It is the bounden duty of the Scouters who run the cub packs or Bulbul flocks or scout troops to realise themselves first and thereby instil into the minds of the children the importance and necessity of acquiring some qualification or other so that they may be ready to stand on their own legs by the time they become grown ups and not be a burden on their parents then. It may be in studies or fine arts, or crafts or some other technique. The whole scheme of Scouting has been planned only to achieve this purpose i. e. to make the boy or girl grow up acquiring sufficient knowledge in the rudiments of life in all aspects and to get ready to face the stress and strain of this world as adults with full confidence in themselves. More emphasis is to be laid on the mental development rather than on the physical growth since some less fortunate very poor children with meagre and undernourished food they take are seen possessing healthier and enduring build and constitution of some children who

are in a position to command rich food and expert medical attendance etc. It is here that planning the programme comes in. The observation games, intelligence tests, sense training competitions, the proficiency badge courses, the strenuous but all interesting camp life, the camp fire entertainments and many things like these contribute greatly to the proper development of the children. The Scouter's part is to control wherever necessary and to regulate the ever overflowing enthusiasm of the children with patience and perseverance so that the motto, the promise, the laws become part and parcel of the kids and consequently descipline flowers out of the understanding and practise of these. The children are apt to ignore the school and studies due to their unabiding interest in scouting and rightly too. The responsibility of the Scouters in regard to this cannot be overemphasized. The children ought to be made to understand that their duty to their homes and parents, their studies and schools or colleges are equally important if not more and that scouting is only a training ground for making them good citizens. Now-a-days the experience gained through scouting is itself taken as an added qualification fot some jobs.

WHAT KIND ARE YOU?

A lot of people are like wheel barrows–no good unless pushed.

Some are like canoes–they need to be paddled.

Some are like kites–if you don't keep a string on them they fly away.

Some are like kittens–they are more contented when patted.

Some are like footballs–you can't tell which way they will bounce next.

Some are like balloons-full of air and ready to blow up.

Some are like trailers–they have to be pulled.

Some are like neon lights–they keep going on and off.

And we would like to add–some are like a good watch-open faced, pure gold, quietly busy, and full of good works.

Anon

(From "The Scouts", Boy Scouts Association, Great Britain)

LITTLE THINGS

Oh, it's just the little homely things,
The unobtrusive, friendly things,
The "Wont-you-let-me-help-you" things,
That make our pathway light.

And it's just the jolly, joking things,
The "Never-mind-the-trouble" things,
The "Laugh-with-me-it's funny" things,
That make the world seem bright.

So here's to all the little things,
The done-and-then-forgotten things,
Those "Oh-it's-simply-nothing" things,
That make life worth the fight.

DISTRICT NEWS

CENTRAL MADRAS.

A Refresher Course for Scouters and Guiders of Central Madras Bharat Scouts and Guides was held at Madras Christian College High School on November 4, 1961. Sri K. M. Koshi, District Commissioner (Scouts) organised the Course. Sri K. M. Cherian, President of the Association inaugurated the course and Messrs D. S. Mathias of M.C.C. High School and J. J. Jayaraj of Wesley High School were in charge of the Course for Scouters and Kumari S. Bakkiamuthu of Monahan Girls High School was in charge for Guiders. Sixteen Scouters and Nineteen Guiders attended the Refresher Course.

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A Conference of the Heads of Institutions and Correspondents of the schools in Central Madras with the President and District Officers of the Association was held at Wesley High School, Royapettah, on Thursday, Oct. 26, 1961.

Mr. K. M Cherian, the President, welcomed the gathering. Mr. K. M. Koshy, District Commissioner (Scouts), explained the object of the gathering. Mr. D. S. Mathias explained how Scouting and Guiding was run in U. K which he had visited recently. Messrs J. Jayaraj, S. B. Hussainy, Hadi Ali Kirmani & Dr Rahamath Unissa Begum, District Commissioner (Guides). Messrs H. R. Junaidy, M Refiuddin, Ahmed Ali, P S. Vaidyanathan, R. Padmanabhan, & Misses B. Hemavati and S. Masilamony took part in the discussion.

The aim of the Conference was to find out ways and means of improving the efficiency in Scouting & Guiding in the district. Very valuable suggestions were given by the participants and the Association hopes to put them into practice,

Shri K. M. Cherian the President was 'at home' to those present.

CENTRAL MADRAS BHARAT SCOUTS & GUIDES

A Patrol Leaders' Camp at M.C.C. School, Chetput was held on Saturday, Oct. 28, 1961. 75 Patrol Leaders & Seconds took part in it. Mr. K. M. Cherian, the President of the association inaugurated the Camp. Mr. K. M. Koshy D.C. (Scouts) presided. Messrs. D. S. Mathias and J. Jayraj A.D.Cs. were in charge of the Camp.

EAST MADRAS.

Presiding over a programme of dance recitals of Kumari L. Vijayalakshmi arranged in aid of the East Madras Bharat Scouts & Guides on 15—10—61 at Rasika Ranjani Sabha Hall, Sri. C. Subramaniam, Minister for Finance & Education, Govt. of Madras, said that the Scout and Guide Movement is an international organisation for character building and is based on self-discipline and service to the country Now-a-days Cine artists are coming forward to extend their cooperation without any hesitation to help for good causes.

He continued that the idea of arranging dance programme to raise funds is really commendable Those who have contributed to this will have a satisfaction that their money will be utilised for a good cause and furthermore, they have also enjoyed a good performance. I envy those who collect money by these methods. As a finance minister, he said he had to impose taxes to raise money for the government and thereby become unpopular. If the tax collecting is also as enjoyable as collecting money for a dance performance it will be very good. He congratulated the artiste for her pleasant dance.

Earlier Mr. Md. Sulaiman Zackaria Sait, Chairman of the Benefit Performance Committee welcomed the gathering. Dr. P. Seshagiri Rao read the messages received which included the one from the Governor of Madras.

Sir. Subramaniam presented a silver plaque on behalf of the Association to Kumari. L. Vijayalakshmi. An attractive souvenir was also released.

Sri. R. N. Vadivel, Hony. Dist. Secretary, proposed a vote of thanks.

NORTH MADRAS.

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION ;

A rally of Cubs and Scouts was held on November 14, 1961 at Sir Theagaraya College School, Madras. Sri A. Narasimha Rao, B.A , B.Ed , Assistant Headmaster, presided over the function. Vidwan Sri S Viswanathan spoke about the significance of the day and sketched a brief life-history of our Prime Minister. Sri M. D. Kanniappa Mudaliar, Cubmaster gave a hearty vote of thanks. Light refreshments were distributed to the children assembled.

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Mr. F. O. Ihenacho, Chairman, Public Service Commission, Enugu, Nigeria and Shri J. Agwu, Recruiting Officer, Nigeria along with Shri J. Isaac Albert, District Educational Officer, Madras North, Madras visited Sir Theagaraya Scout Group on October 28, 1961.

Mr. F. O. Ihenacho hoisted the flag. The visitors were taken round the pioneering projects. They witnessed a brief programme of activities of the CUBS and SCOUTS, such as Sherkhan's Death Dance, the Giants and the Dwarfs, Walk-fight, Message Relay in Semaphore, Camp-fire songs etc. The visitors were highly appreaciative of the activities of the young CUBS and SCOUTS as also the delicious sweet and savouries prepared by them.

Mr. F. O. Ihenaco exhorted the CUBS and SCOUTS to be cheerful always. He also reminded them that a SCOUT is a friend to all. He praised them for their smart activities and taught them a scout yell, THE GIANT'S SNEEZE.

MADURAI

Dasara week is a very busy week for all the temples in Madurai city and Scouts belonging to Asoka and R. B T. Scout Troops of the Sourashtra High School, Rovers of the City Rover Crew, Madurai, Gadadhar Scout Troop (Open), Gauthama Scout Troop (Open), Scout Troop of the St. Mary's High School, Meenakshi Scout Troop of the Annakuli Mandapam Middle School, Saraswathi Scout Troop of the Sourashtra (Secondary) High School, Shivaji Scout Troop of the Sethupathi High School and Zumbro Scout Troop of the American College High School, Madurai etc. participated throughout the week rendering service in various temples of Madurai city, under the able and enthusiastic leadership of Rovers Messrs. R. Mahalingam, Seshaian, N. R. Srinivasan and Scouters M. Ganapathy Ramalingam and K. Sundararajan. The Service cited consisted of regulating the crowds, tracing of lost children and property, rendering First-Aid etc.

The total period of service by the Scouts during the festival was 2953½ hours. Sri M. Rajagopalan, D.C.C., State Organising Commissioner, Bharat Scouts and Guides, Madras State, accompanied by Sri T. N. Bhuminathan, District Scout Organiser, Madurai, inspected the service on October 12, 1961 and complimented them on their excellent service rendered during the festival. Sri K. Rajagopal, B.A.L.T., Assistant District Commissioner (Scouts). Madurai, organised this service.

WELL DONE! MADURAI SCOUTS AND SCOUTERS !!

SALEM.

நவம்பர் 12, 1961ல் சேலம் நகராட்சி உயர்நிலைப்பள்ளி சகாதேவபுரம் விளையாட்டு மைதானத்தில் சாரண சாரணீயர் வார விழாவிற்கு (The National Scout & Guide week) சேலம் மாவட்ட சாரண ஆணையாளர் திரு. S .V. லக்ஷ்மணன் அவர்கள் தலைமை தாங்கினார்கள். மாவட்ட உதவி போலீஸ் அதிகாரி திரு. T. D. கிருஷ்ணமூர்த்தி அவர்கள், சாரணக் கொடியை மலரவிட்டு, அணிவகுப்பு மரியாதையும் ஏற்றுக் கொண்டார்கள். பின்பு அவர்கள் சாரணீயத்தில் மேன் மேலும் பயிற்சி பெற்று விளங்க வேண்டும் என்று எல்லோரையும் ஊக்கி வைத்தார்கள். முதலில் சங்கத் தலைவர் திரு. V. வெங்கட்டராமன் அவர்கள் அனைவரையும் வரவேற்று பேசினார்கள். மாவட்ட கல்வி அதிகாரி திரு. C. பத்மநாபன் அவர்கள் சாரணீயத்தின் முக்கியத்துவத்தைப்பற்றி பேசினார்கள். விழாவிற்கு வந்த அனைவருக்கும் சங்க செயலாளர் திரு. K. தேவராசன் அவர்கள் நன்றி கூறினார்கள். அணிவகுப்பு மரியாதைக்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகளை பாடி அதிகாரி திரு. G. கிருஷ்ணசாமி அவர்கள் செய்தார்கள்.

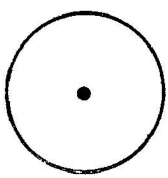
NILGIRIS

A Rally of Cubs and Bulbuls was held at Prospect Estate School Ground on Oct. 27, 61 when Mr D. H. E Mayne, Assistant Manager of the estate presided. 32 Cubs and Bulbuls, Scouters and Guiders, were present in uniform. Sri V. P. Ramaswami, District Scout Organiser, welcomed the audience. In spite of the inclement weather, a large number of parents, were present. Prayer songs were sung by the Cubs and Bulbuls. The President distributed Prizes and Certificates, for those who took part in the Second Camp–Cum–Rally of the Tea Estates Scouts and Guides, held last month at Coonoor,

The District Scout Organiser, spoke about the efficiency and standard and about goodturns.

The President in his speech remarked that he was very much pleased and impressed with Cubs' and Bulbuls,' smart turn out, and discipline, specially in Tea Estates. All credit should go to the enthusiastic and willing adult workers in charge of this fine lot of Girls and Boys He congratulated the Tea Board in encouraging Scouting and Guiding in Tea Estates and thus to use their efficiency for the benefit of the Community.

Mrs. Devaraj, Flock Leader was in charge of the display. Mr Chenniah, Cub Master, proposed vote of thanks.



GONE HOME

We regret to report the untimely demise of Sri. R. P. Joseph, Assistant District Commissioner (Scouts) of Central Madras. He was an indefatigable worker. By his demise the Central Madras has lost a sincere worker.

EDUCATIONAL OFFICER INVESTED AS SCOUT COMMISSIONER

AT TIRUCHIRAPALLI.

An Investiture Ceremony was conducted on Saturday the 25th November 1961 at 4-30 p.m. by Sri T. R. Kothandaram Mudaliar, Assistant State Commissioner (Scouts), Madras State at the National High School premises when there was a Rally of Scouts and Guides. About 400 Scouts and Guides participated in the Rally.

Sri Kothandaram Mudaliar unfurled the flag and gave a yarn on Scouting and Guiding. Sri Mudaliar invested Sri K. Kandaswamy, B.A., L.T., District Educational Officer as the District Commissioner (Scouts), Tiruchirapalli District. Earlier Srimathi Rajkumari Rema Devi, District Commissioner (Guides) welcomed the gathering. Janab G. M. Batsha, I.A.S., District Collector of Tiruchirapalli District and the President of the District Association presided over the function. Our Joint State Organising Commissioner (Scouts) Sri M. Ram Mohan, presented the Warrant of appointment on behalf of the Association to the District Commissioner (Scouts) Sri V. Boovaragan, Headmaster of the National High School and Srimathi G. K. Ponnammal, Headmistress of the Savithri Vidyasala felicitated the new District Commissioner on behalf of the heads of institutions. The President in his concluding remarks stressed the three important things viz. Healthy, Helpful and Honesty with illustrations and expected everyone to keep the flag of scouting flying in the District. There was a Scout and Guide craft demonstration. Sri M. A. Sundararajan, District Secretary, proposed a vote of thanks. After the singing of JANA GANA MANA, the meeting terminated.

THE BOY

Dr. ARTHUR A. SCHUCK

[Excerpts from the keynote address delivered at the 17th International Scout Conference at New Delhi.—Ed.]

There are those who bitterly criticize the youth of our generation. From much personal study and contact, I have come to the conclusion that the majority of the youth of my country today is better and finer, has higher ideals, and more purposeful objectives than the youth of preceding generations I believe that the majority of them in spite of the difficulties of the modern world in which they live, have an intense interest in making a better world and in bringing happiness and freedom to all mankind.

What I know to be true of the youth of my own country, I believe to be true of the youth of the world. Surveys which we have made prove that youth recognizes the problems and challenges of today's world and is looking to qualified adults to show them the way. It is important that we give them the desired leadership.

If we are to be successful in training boys, we must understand boy nature and have confidence in them. If I were an artist and would paint on a screen a picture of a boy as I see him, it would have to be a painting that would depict a bright-eyed, cheerful, alert, lad in whose eyes you would see the light of anticipation and adventure. But, I would have to be such a fine artist that I would open the windows of his soul and you peering therein would see that which is as plastic as the clay used by a sculptor in moulding a figure, wherein every thought, every deed and every action leaves an indelible impression. You would see that ideas and ideals thrusted upon him from our adult world were forming the man to be. This is the picture of one boy, en masse it is the destiny of our respective countries and the world.

It is true as is stated in the theme of this Conference, we are "Building Tomorrow, Today."

In the development of this boy physically, mentally, morally and spiritually, we must recognize that boys differ at various age levels and we must meet the need of each age level.

There is no other period in one's life when so many important things happen in so short a time.

There is no other period in life when the people who surround us, so indelibly leave their marks upon us.

There is no other period in life when we are so dependent upon—and so much at the mercy of other people for the shaping of things to come.

There is no other period—no second chance in life—when a boy can get those things which he should get from his boyhood.

AND—there is no period in life which is so irretrievably gone as the passing of boyhood.

There is no land of fantasy where the state of boyhood is eternal. Rather, it is fleeting and perishable. It is the very nature of a boy to change—to grow—to mature—and finally not to be a boy at all, but a man.

But, in a very real sense, the man is the image of his boyhood. Boyhood experiences leave their permanent mark on the personality and character of the man. This is of deep significance to all adults who deal with boys.

All that we do in Scouting is an investment of faith in the principle that a knowing leader, by using a unique method to achieve a high purpose, can make a significant difference in the kind of man a boy will become. But this only happens when the leader fully understands the nature of the boy and the real purpose of Scouting.

The uniqueness of our Scouting programme stems from the fact that it has been carefully designed to help boys develop a system of principles and moral values We measure each programme method by the degree to which it might help to accomplish an element of our purpose. But this process of influencing character through Scouting must be tailored to the nature of the boy at different age levels.

At the age of 8, 9 and 10, the boy lives much of the time in a special world of imagination all his own. This is a difficult world for adults to understand, and even more difficult for adults to enter.

This presents an element of conflict for the boy, too, because he is forced to live a portion of his young life in our very adult world. This is not designed to appeal to a young fellow whose natural tendencies are quite different.

Thus at this young age there is a very real chasm of misunderstanding between the boy and the adult who lives and works with him. Our objectives are so different that we can only hope to reach our adult purpose by bridging this chasm.

Our best bridge to the boy of 8, 9 and 10 is to share his imaginative world with him. This is the reason that there is a common quality in all our Cubbing programmes. Regardless of minor differences in method, our programmes are built around highly imaginative activity. By sharing in his imagination, we show him we understand. Whether he is Mowgli or a knight in cardboard armour, we are there enjoying it with him—using it as a bridge to his interest and as a means of helping him to understand Scouting's ideals.

At any youthful age it is necessary to gain some feeling of importance. This is most difficult for the younger boy because adults and older boys tend to minimize his usefulness and importance. This almost forces him into gaining stature by pretending he's something or somebody he isn't. This is so fundamental an urge that we conspire with him in this rather than against him. Cubbing in a sense gives him a platform upon which he can gain recognition from his elders.

Still another vexing element in the 8, 9 and 10 year old is his rugged individualism. He is motivated mainly by his own desires and wishes, and is very little concerned with the desires of others.

He has not yet fully learned the basic lesson of life that his own happiness is dependent in no small degree upon the way in which his desires fit in with those of his friends and family. It is an objective of our Cubbing programme to lead him towards this realization.

But boys change rapidly, and within the span of a few short years the boy has grown to be less dependent upon his own imagination. At 11 and 12 and 13 it is less natural for him to pretend that he is a knight than for him to pretend that he is a boy a little older.

While a Cub might evaluate another boy in terms of who or what he is pretending to be, as a Scout he would more likely evaluate the other fellow on the basis of what he can do. Thus a feeling of importance comes more from demonstrating his own skills than from pretending he is somebody else.

While the boy of 11, 12 and 13 still has some strong and individualistic urges, he has now become much more skillful in the give and take of every day life. He is really beginning to realize that a successful and satisfying life is a composite of one's own wishes and desires, and those of boys and adults around him Through Scouting we encourage the development of this understanding through the patrol method. In this climate of living and working together the rough edges wear off, without destroying the boy's opportunity to have his own opinions and stand up for them.

So the chasm between the boy of 11, 12 and 13 and the adult is still there. but it is not near so wide. Now we use Scouting skills as a bridge—skills chosen not merely for their own value, but for their effect upon the growing personality and character of the boy.

Then come wonderful but often confusing years of 14 and above. The boy has moved from "Let's pretend" to "Let's do" to "What are your plans for the future". While in Cubbing the adult uses highly imaginative activity for influencing character ; and in Scouting he uses skills to build self-reliance and other character outcomes—now adult and boy objectives merge. This young fellow's deepest urge is to be adultlike and to plan for the future, and this is also the adult's objective for him. So now we build our programme around his own

deep interest in the man he is rapidly becoming. We help him to plan and exlpore his immediate future. We help him to further test his leadership skills by giving him an increased opportunity for leadership.

Now his sense of importance is gained from learning and using adult-like skills. To him there is nothing so satisfying as to be treated by another adult as though he himself were an adult.

Another change which takes place at this stage is that he is becoming more dependent upon the right kind of relationship to his friends and adults Indeed, at this age he sometimes finds it easier to adopt the ways of his friends than to have standards and opportunities of his own It is for this reason that Scouting presses upon him the need to develop a personal scale of value—a code of ethics—which represents a moral line beyond which he will not retreat.

Thus the viewpoint chasm between the adult and a young man is created not so much by a difference in objectives and interests, as it is from failure on the part of the adult to understand the changes which are taking place in this age boy.

Many adults feel that the boy of 14 and above is in revolt against his elders and that he does not respect his parents. A recent study we have made shows conclusively that he has deep respect for his parents and that he recognizes his need for adult guidance.

If there is an appearance of revolt, it is because the young man knows he must learn to stand on his own two feet. If there is any revolt involved it is against the comparatively few adults who fail to understand this boy's need to begin to act the role of emerging manhood.

It is with this in mind that we give leadership and guidance to older boys more on a basis of becoming their co-workers. This makes our influence and leadership no less effective and far more desirable.

So it is, that we succeed in influencing the character of the boy only when we understand his basic urges and needs. We must help our leaders to become better and better informed in this. Our own knowledge, programme content and method must keep pace with his changing needs. Our goal is to help him build a scale of values, recognizing that in the beginning he is far less interested in this objective than in the latter years of his Scouting experience.

If we are effective in this, we are not only building better boys, but we are building a better world.

It is true that in so far as youth is concerned, the theme of this Conference "Building Tomorrow, To-day" is our generation's responsibility and greatest challenge.

குருளையர் ஆசானுக்கு

(முன் தொடர்ச்சி)

B. M. ரெட்டி

இன்றைய நிலையில் பள்ளி மாணவர்கள்பால் அழிபழி வழக்கங்களும், சீர்கெட்ட நடத்தைகளும், அக்கரையின்மையும், மதிப்பின்மையும், கட்டுப்பாடின்மையும், இழிபேச்சுக்களும் மிகப் பெருகி வளர்ந்துள்ளன. இவற்றை நம் நாட்டு நல்தலைவர்களும், கல்விமான்களு(Educationist)ம் தெரிந்து, வருந்தி வருகிறார்கள். பள்ளிக்கு வரும் மாணவர்களின் எண்ணிக்கை அதிகமாகி விட்டதும், மாணவருள் மிகப் பெரும்பாலோர் பின் தங்கிய கிராம-சமூக-குடும்பச் சூழ்நிலையிலிருந்து வந்ததும் இக்கேட்டிற்குக் காரணங்கள் என்று கூறப்படுகிறது. இது சரியான, முதற்தர காரணமல்ல. இது ஒரு காரணமாக இருக்கலாம். படிப்பில் திறனளவில்தான் இந்தக் காரணம் பொருந்தும். மேற்குறித்த குறை பண்புகளுக்கு வேறு சிறந்த சரியான காரணங்கள் இருக்க வேண்டும்.

ஏனெனில், சுமார் 20, 30, ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்னால் பள்ளிகளில் படித்துப் பட்டம் பெற்று இன்று முதியோராயும், கல்விமான்களாயும், அறிஞர்களாயும் உள்ளவர்களின் மனத்திட்பம், நடத்தை, சொல்நிலை இன்ன பிறவற்றைக் கவனித்தால், பல ஆண்டுகளுக்குமுன் இவர்கள் இருந்த கிராம-சமூக-குடும்பச் சூழ்நிலைகள் இன்றையதைவிட பின் தங்கினவே என்பதையும் மனதில் கொண்டால், இவர்களின், நற்பாங்குக்கு வலிவான காரணங்கள் சில இருந்திருக்க வேண்டும். அக்காரணங்கள் இன்று மறைந்ததாலோ, மதிக்கப்படாததாலோ, புறக்கணிக்கப்பட்டதாலோ ஊழியர்-வணிகர் இவர்களால் பாதிக்கப்படும் மற்ற மக்கள் ஆகிய அனைவரும் ஒருவரையொருவர் குறைகூறும் நிலையில் அவரவர் நாணயம், சமூக உறவு, திறமை இன்ன நற்பண்புகள் இவர்கள்பால் இல்லையோ என்று நினைக்குமளவில் நாம் உணர்ந்து, அனுபவித்து, மனமுடைந்துள்ளோம். மேலும், இன்றைய மாணவர்களின் வெளிச் செயலைப் பார்க்கும், கல்லா வாலிபர்கள் மாணவர்களின் புறச் செயலால் கவரப்பட்டுத் தம்மிலுள்ள நல் நடத்தைகளையும் சிதைத்துக்கொண்டு, வியந்து வருந்தும் மூத்தோர்களுக்கு மனச் சுமையாகின்றனர். இந்த நிலையில் எந்தச் சூழ்நிலை யாரைக் கெடுக்கிறது? என்பதை ஆழநினைத்தால் அறிஞர் அறிவார்கள். படித்துப் பகட்டுடை உடுத்தி அரச ஊழியமோ, அன்று வேறு ஊழியமோ செய்யும் குமார்களின் செயலையும் — சொல்லையும் கவனிக்கும் கல்லா

வாலிபர்கள், இப்பகட்டுக் குமாரின் பழக்க வழக்கமே நல்வாழ்வின் உருவங்கள் என்று நம்பி, அவற்றைத் தாம் ஏற்று, அவ்வாறு தாமும் நடக்க உந்தப்படுகிறார்கள். இப்படிக்கெட்டவர்களின் எண்ணிக்கையும் பெருகி வருகிறது. இதையும் அறிஞர்கள், மனதில் கொள்ள வேண்டும். எனவே மாணவர்கள் நல்லெடுத்துக்காட்டாக, இருக்க வேண்டிய (இன்றும்-நாளையும்) அளவில் கல்வியோ, கல்விச் சூழ்நிலையோ உதவவில்லை என்பதை நாம் ஏற்றுக்கொள்ள வேண்டியவர்களாக இருக்கின்றோம்.

சாரணீயத்தின் நோக்கம், பாலர், வாலிபர், குமரர் ஆகியோரை நற்குடிகளாக பழக்கி விடுவதே. வாழ்க்கைக்கு எப்படி, என்பதற்குக் கல்வி கொடுப்பதைவிட, வாழ்வது எப்படி என்பதில் பழக்குவது சாரணீயம். எனவே, கல்வியின் பூரண நோக்கத்தை இது நிறைவேற்றுவதாகிறது. இந்த நற்குடிப்பயிற்சி நிரந்தரமான காரணங்களை அடிப்படைக்கல்லாக கொண்டுள்ளது என்பதை சாரணளர் (Scouters) ஒவ்வொருவரும் அறிந்துள்ளார்கள்.

சாரணீயத்திலும், இயக்கத்தின் புறத்திலும் சாரணீயத் தொண்டு செய்கிறவர்களுக்கு ஊதியமில்லை. தாம் சிக்கனமான தெளிவான, தேச சேவை சாரணீயத்தின் மூலம் செய்தோம் — செய்கிறோம் என்னும் மனத்திருப்திதான் இவர்கள் பெறும் நிலை ஊதியம். சாரணீயத்தை அறிய விரும்பும் தொண்டுள்ளம் உடையவர்களைமட்டும் கவரும் முறையில் ஊழியமில்லாத்தொண்டாக ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. இதை ஒவ்வொரு சாரணளரும் மனதில்கொண்டு, தாம் மேற்கொண்ட பதவியைச் செய்யவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஒரு பதவியை ஏற்றுக் கொள்வதற்குமுன், அப்பதவியைப்பற்றி அறிந்து கொள்ள பயிற்சியும் பெறவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அப்படிபெறும் பயிற்சிக்காகும் பணச் செலவைவும் அவரவரே செய்து கொள்ளவேண்டியதே. இவ்வியக்கம் பயிற்சியை வலிய ஒருவருக்கும் கொடுக்கிறதில்லை. இதனல் சாரணளர்கள் எப்படி இதில் ஈடுபடுகிறார்கள் என்பதையும், ஏன் இவ்வித ஊதியமில்லா ஊழியம் என்பதையும், கூர்ந்து நினைத்தால் இவ்வியக்கத்தின் தொலைகால (Long range) நோக்கம் விளங்கும்.

(தொடரும்.)

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